

REMARKS

By this amendment, paragraphs [0006], [0023], [0024], [0033], [0034], [0035], [0038], [0043], [0049] of the specification and claims 5, 6 and 8-20 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-20 remain pending in the application. Reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

In regard to Objection to the Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the drawings because Figure 3 does not show how fluid is expelled from nozzle body 182. The Examiner has stated in paragraph 1 of the rejection that

[e]ven when poppet 184 is unseated from nozzle body 182, poppet 184 appears to fill almost the entire annular flow path 192. It is not visible how fluid exits nozzle assembly 180.

The Applicants submit that the drawings as originally filed are sufficiently clear for a person skilled in the art to understand how fluid exits nozzle assembly 180.

As the Examiner has indicated in her rejection, the poppet 184 fills almost the entire annular flow path 192. As such, part of the annular flow path is open for fluid to pass therethrough. The fluid pump shown in Figure 3 is suitable for use in an internal combustion engine. A person skilled in the art would understand that this application requires only a very small amount of fluid to exit the nozzle with each reciprocation of the pump, under high pressure, in the form of a fine mist. As the Examiner has indicated, the drawings show that a small amount of fluid would be able to exit through the nozzle assembly because the annular flow path is only “almost” filled.

As such, the Applicants submit that no modification to the drawings is required, and the Examiner’s amendment is improper and should be withdrawn.

In regard to Objections to the Specification

The Examiner has objected to the specification and has identified a number of informalities therein.

In response to the Examiner's remarks, the Applicants have amended paragraphs [0006], [0023], [0024], [0033], [0034], [0035], [0038], [0043], [0049] of the specification to correct a number of informalities, including those the Examiner has identified.

No new matter has been added by way of these amendments, as they merely correct typographical errors that were apparent in the original application.

Regarding informality g. identified by the Examiner in paragraph 2 of the rejection, the Applicants believe that the reference to Figures 5 and 6 in paragraph [0044] is appropriate. The immediately preceding disclosure refers to the central aperture 128, which is shown most clearly in Figures 5 and 6.

Regarding the remaining informalities identified by the Examiner in paragraph 2 of the rejection, the Applicants believe that they have been addressed by the present amendments.

As such, the Examiner's objections to the specification are believed to be addressed and overcome and should be withdrawn.

In regard to Objection to Claim 11 under 37 CFR 1.75(c)

The Examiner has objected to claim 11 under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form for apparently failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim.

In response to the Examiner's remarks, claim 11 has been amended to depend from claim 10 instead of from claim 9.

No change in claim scope is intended by the present amendment, as it corrects an error in claim dependency that is apparent from the claims as originally filed. Other erroneous claim dependencies have been corrected as discussed below.

As a result of the present amendment, the Examiner's objection is believed to be addressed and overcome and should be withdrawn.

In regard to Objections to Claims 16 and 18

The Examiner has objected to claims 16 and 18 because of the following informalities:

In claim 16, the word “movable should be replaced with “movably”;

In claim 16, the word “and” should be replaced with “an”;

In claim 18, the words “wherein the step of 16” should be removed.

As a result of the Examiner’s remarks, the Applicants have amended claims 16 and 18 to correct the informalities identified by the Examiner.

As a result of the present amendments, the Examiner’s objections are believed to be addressed and overcome and should be withdrawn.

In regard to Rejections of Claims 5-8, 10 and 13-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

The Examiner has rejected claims 5-8, 10 and 13-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicants regard as the invention.

In response to the Examiner’s rejections, the Applicants have amended claims 5, 6 and 8-20 to correct numerous grammatical and typographical errors. In addition, the previously erroneous dependencies of claims 11-15 and 17-20 have been corrected.

As a result of the present amendments, all of the informalities identified by the Examiner are believed to have been addressed, and claims 5-8, 10 and 13-20 as amended are believed to be in full compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112. As such, the Examiner’s rejections are believed to be addressed and overcome and should be withdrawn.

In view of the above remarks, the Applicant respectfully submits that all of the currently pending claims are allowable and that the entire application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable to place the application in a better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

At the time of filing of the present response, the Office was authorized to charge the fees believed to be necessary to a credit card. In case of any under- or over-payment or should any additional fee be otherwise necessary, the Office is hereby authorized to credit or debit (as the case may be) Deposit Account number 502977.

Respectfully submitted,

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